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LETTER DATED 12 JULY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FINLAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on 9 July 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union concerning a ceasefire agreement in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and the annex thereto to be circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Marjatta RASI
Permanent Representative of Finland
to the United Nations

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Annex

[Original: English/French]

Statement on the ceasefire agreement of the Democratic Republic of the Congo issued on 9 July 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union welcomes the acceptance at the ministerial level by the parties involved of a ceasefire agreement in the conflict of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The European Union supports the agreement and appeals to the heads of State and other parties to sign and implement the agreement as soon as possible.

The European Union commends President Chiluba of Zambia and other mediators for their successful efforts to find a peaceful solution to the conflict.

The European Union appeals to all the parties to respect the spirit of the ceasefire agreement and to refrain from any military operations.

The European Union stands ready to give its support to the peace, reconciliation and democratization process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated country Cyprus and the European Free Trade Association countries which are members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.